

SENATE RESOLUTION 139
By Ramsey

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mr. J.D. "Sam" Sowell of
Madison.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of
the death of Mr. J.D. "Sam" Sowell; and

WHEREAS, a native of Springfield, Tennessee, Sam Sowell was one of thirteen children
born to the late John and Ida Frey Sowell; and

WHEREAS, at a young age, Mr. Sowell's mother died leaving him to be raised by older
sisters, neighbors and friends of the Sowell family; and

WHEREAS, Sam Sowell displayed great courage as a young man and dealt with this
adversity by immersing himself in the study of wood-working and becoming an extraordinary
craftsman; it was with this tremendous artistic skill that Mr. Sowell created a successful
business of building furniture and refurbishing antiques; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sowell served with acumen and alacrity as a craftsman, in which
position he earned the respect of his peers and customers alike for the exemplary quality of his
work; and

WHEREAS, Sam Sowell served his country with bravery and honor as a commissioned
Corporal in the United States Army during the Second World War; during his service, Mr. Sowell

participated in the Normandy Invasion, courageously landing on Omaha Beach; he also drove a tank during the war and temporarily served as the personal assistant to General George Patton; and

WHEREAS, as an active member of the community, Mr. Sowell participated in numerous civic organizations including the Boy Scouts of America and the Civitan Club; he also served as President of the National Campers and Hikers Association; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sam Sowell was instrumental in organizing and founding the Madison Station Senior Citizens Center; and

WHEREAS, J.D. Sowell was an active and devout member of the Madison Church of Christ, which he served faithfully for many years as Deacon; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sowell was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, J.D. Sowell enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife and one true love, Patsy McBroom; they shared fifty-four years of marriage and enjoyed travelling throughout the United States, Mexico, and Europe together; and

WHEREAS, he was the loving and devoted father of a daughter and son-in-law, Joanie and Dean Dixon, and a son and daughter-in-law, Jeff and Dana Sowell; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sowell was the adoring and proud grandfather of Samantha Grayce and Sabrina Gabrielle Sowell; and

WHEREAS, Sam Sowell leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; he earned unfettered respect for the exemplary quality of his service to others, for his unsurpassed work ethic and for his unquestionable integrity; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional gentleman; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor the memory of Mr. J.D. "Sam"

Sowell, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. J.D. "Sam" Sowell.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.